

# SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

## MUNICIPAL INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY AND PHYSIOTHERAPY\*

(INSTITUTO MUNICIPAL DE RADIOLOGÍA Y FISIOTERAPIA)

*Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Director: Dr. A. Saralegui

The Institute of Radiology and Physiotherapy was created in 1925 as a dependency of the Department of Health and Welfare of the City of Buenos Aires, for the purpose of providing diagnostic services, specialized training, and training of personnel and supervision of equipment for the associated hospitals. It consists of the divisions of Radiology, Radium-therapy, Electrology, Diathermy, Phototherapy, Kinesitherapy, and Hydrotherapy, as well as the library, laboratory, and a 60-bed ward for patients requiring brief hospitalization. It is housed in an H-shaped building covering 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> (107,600 sq. ft.), with six floors in the central part of the building and three in the wings, the whole being designed to afford ample light and air.

The various treatment and diagnostic sections have been arranged to provide a maximum of efficiency; thus, the radio-diagnosis division includes 11 roentgenography and 3 fluoroscopy chambers each designed for a single type of examination, avoiding the necessity of changing the position of X-Ray tubes and examination tables. The Roentgen-therapy section is equipped to treat as many as 100 patients in four hours. The Electro-diagnosis and electrotherapy division includes 14 treatment rooms for men and 14 for women in the low frequency division and 10 each in the diathermy section. Electrocardiography has its own room with provision for three patients. There are 8 rooms in the phototherapy (ultra-violet and infra-red ray) section; the kinesitherapy division is equipped with the necessary apparatus for massage and exercise; the Radium section possesses two grams of radium divided among 340 tubes and needles; a teleradiumtherapy apparatus is now being constructed. There is also an operating room for surgical procedures.

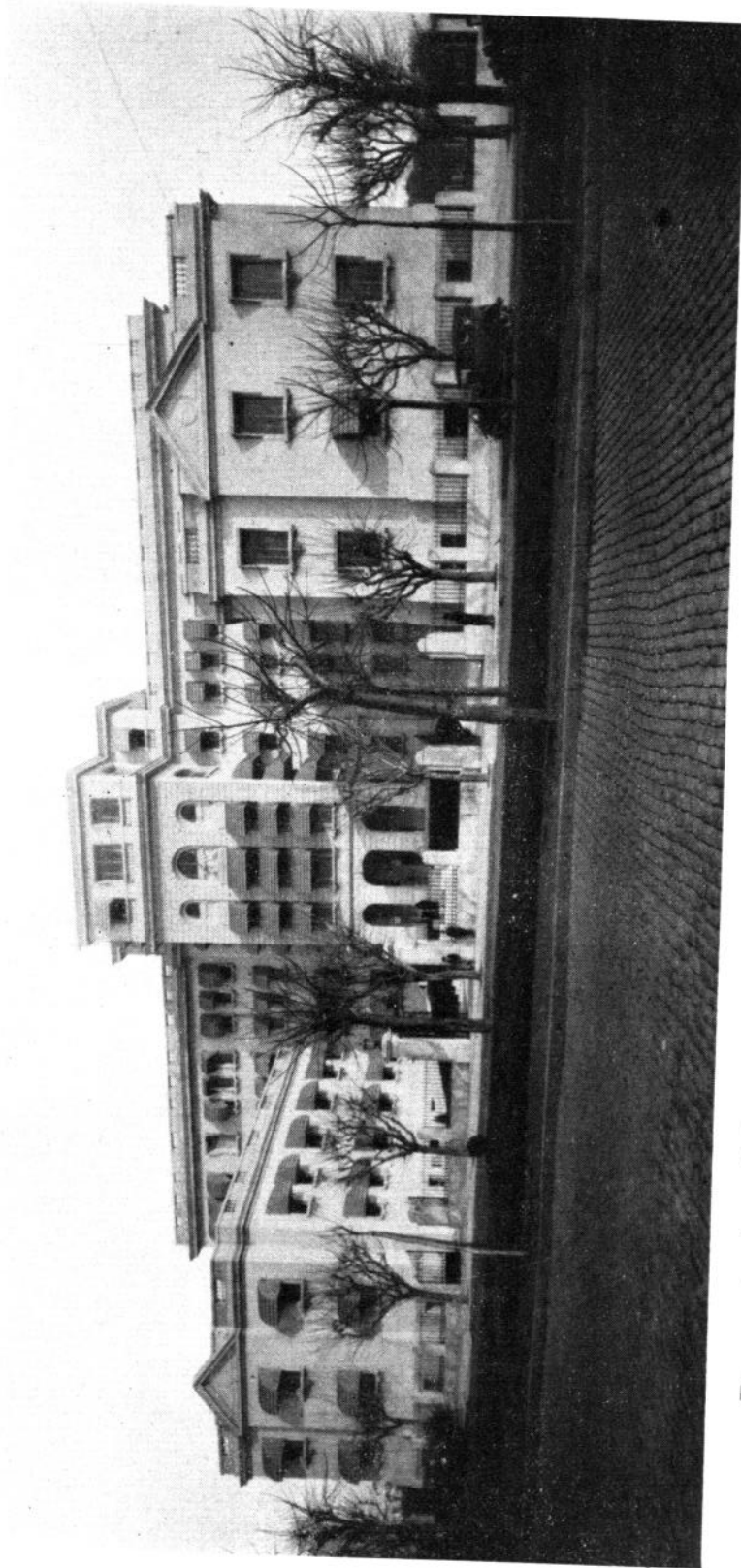
In addition to its treatment facilities the Institute has research laboratories: Bacteriology, Pathologic Anatomy, Chemistry, and Physics. Its Museum preserves wax models of cases before and after treatment, furnishing a clear picture of the results. Mention might also be made of the Radiography interpretation and Filing room, with

\* One of a series of papers describing the principal scientific institutions in Latin America.

60 neon negatoscopes and a filing system making available the X-ray picture under the name of the patient, the physician, the number of the film, or the disease.

Monthly meetings are held in the Institute with the discussion of papers and clinical cases by the 45 members of the staff; the material later appearing in the *Anales* of the Institute, published every three months.

The Director of the Institute, as a special Professor of Radiology and Physiotherapy of the School of Medical Sciences, gives courses with the cooperation of the medical staff of the institute, three days a week. In the latter part of 1940 it was suggested that, through the Buenos Aires Department of Health and Welfare, two nine-months' scholarships be awarded annually to foreign students, preferably to Pan-American students, who are interested in the special training available at the Institute, and the details of this project are now being studied by the municipal health authorities.



Panoramic view of the Buenos Aires Municipal Institute of Radiology and Physiotherapy



Chemical Laboratory



Phototherapy Laboratory